

FORGED NOTES FOR \$1,260,000

PURPORT TO BE MADE BY JOHN L. BLAIR AND W. M. RICE.

Last of them, W. M. Rice, of S. J. Tilden, Wisconsin, by George L. Seney and dated 1881. Turned up yesterday—Joseph H. Choate got the first in 1890.

George Robinson, a lawyer at 90 Nassau street, received by mail yesterday morning this letter, dated Wilkes-Barre, Pa., June 25, 1902.

SIR: I enclose find judgment bond of note of the late W. M. Rice of 300 Madison avenue, N. Y. city, for \$250,000. Collect amount and hold funds until you hear from me. The administrator John H. Choate of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., is the owner of the note.

Until he got the letter, Mr. Robinson had never heard of E. L. Whitney. Attached to it was one of the old judgment notes that were in use twenty-five years ago or more, drawn to the order of S. J. Tilden for \$250,000, with interest at 2 1/2 per cent, and purporting to bear the signature of the late William Marsh Rice and the endorsement of Gov. Tilden. The note was dated at the city of New York on July 21, 1881. Such notes were required to be witnessed and this one carried the alleged signature of the late George L. Seney, founder of the Seney Hospital in Brooklyn, and at the date of the note President of the Metropolitan Bank of this city. What E. L. Whitney meant by requesting the collection of only \$250,000 Mr. Robinson doesn't know.

The ink on the note is faded, as the ink on a note drawn twenty-one years ago ought to be, and the paper looks yellow. The signature of George L. Seney, however, looks, to the naked eye, like a tracing and the signature of Gov. Tilden on the back of the note is so bad a tracing that the pencilled letters, over which the signature was traced in ink, can be seen. The signature of W. M. Rice looks much like that of the wealthy old Texan, copies of which have been often produced in the newspapers since the arrest of Albert T. Patrick on the charge of murdering Rice.

A reporter of THE SUN took the note to David N. Carvalho, the handwriting expert, who examined all the disputed handwriting of Rice after the arrest of Patrick, and asked him what he thought of it. Looking at the note a moment, Mr. Carvalho smiled and said:

"So that fellow has looked up again, has he? I haven't heard of him since 1890. Before that I heard of him often. His name, however, is changed as often as he writes a letter containing a note for collection."

Mr. Carvalho took out of his safe a bundle of papers. He first showed a letter dated from Orange, N. J., Oct. 24, 1890, mailed from Jersey City the same day and addressed to Joseph H. Choate, at present United States Ambassador to England. It was signed "John S. Seney" and contained a commission for Mr. Choate to collect a note of the same general character as the one sent to Robinson, purporting to have been made by J. L. Blair to the order of George L. Seney for the sum of \$250,000.

This was a twenty-year obligation, having been dated, according to the letter, at "Blair's Town, N. J., Oct. 4, 1870." The letter, in which the note was inclosed, stated that it had been "found the other day in an old vault and that Mr. Choate should collect it if he could," because he knew "more about same than any other man." Mr. Choate was to have one-half of all he got, the other half to go to the "Blair family." The letter, however, was signed "John S. Seney" and contained a commission for Mr. Choate to collect a note of the same general character as the one sent to Robinson, purporting to have been made by J. L. Blair to the order of George L. Seney for the sum of \$250,000.

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Three years later, Mr. Choate was called upon to examine a similar set of documents. This time the letter was signed "John S. Seney," and was dated from the "Blair's Town, N. J., Oct. 4, 1870." The letter, in which the note was inclosed, stated that it had been "found the other day in an old vault and that Mr. Choate should collect it if he could," because he knew "more about same than any other man." Mr. Choate was to have one-half of all he got, the other half to go to the "Blair family." The letter, however, was signed "John S. Seney" and contained a commission for Mr. Choate to collect a note of the same general character as the one sent to Robinson, purporting to have been made by J. L. Blair to the order of George L. Seney for the sum of \$250,000.

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The Tilden and Seney signatures were traced from very good originals. The traces must have been in a position to get hold of those and study them for some time. The body of each note is filled in by the same hand which wrote the letters to the lawyers. In some respects, it is the most remarkable case I have ever seen. You notice that the man has been at this work, off and on, for six years, and yet every effort made to get some track of him has failed.

FIREMAN HURT IN BROADWAY.

Clifford of 9 Hook and Ladder Fell Through Roof at a House at 601.

The two upper floors of an old-fashioned five-story brownstone building at 601 Broadway were gutted by fire early yesterday morning, causing damage of \$30,000, the larger part of which fell on L. Wolf, leather goods.

William Clifford of 9 Hook and Ladder fell through the roof to a floor twenty feet below. He was dragged out by his comrades in the nick of time, having been out badly about head and body. He was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital.

A number of men of 20 Engine Company were hemmed in by flames on the front fire escapes, but the volunteers of several streams on that part of the building gave them a chance to scramble down.

Retail Clerks' Protective Association in Session.

SYRACUSE, July 7.—The New York State Branch of the Retail Clerks' International Protective Association is in session here. An effort will be made to have the Legislature pass a law providing that storekeepers must have seats for women clerks behind the counters. The clerks will also insist upon one hour for lunch. John R. O'Brien, International President, called the association to order. The convention will last three days.

James McCreery & Co.

SUIT DEPARTMENT.

3rd Floor.

Blue and white or black and white Foulard "shirt-waist" dresses. \$14.50.

Taffeta silk "shirt-waist" dresses. Colors: blue, black, green, red and gray. \$15.90 and \$16.50.

White or black India silk dresses, trimmed with lace. \$22.50.

Twenty-third Street.

DORMITORIES FOR "SHEFF."

GIFT FROM FREDERICK VANDERBILT TO YALE.

It Will Amount to at Least \$500,000 and May Come Near a Million—Ground Already Bought—Part of It Will Be Left for a Scientific School Campus.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., July 7.—A gift to the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale, announced today by Prof. Russell H. Chittenden, director of the school, from Frederick W. Vanderbilt, Yale '76, amounts to at least \$500,000, and there were some prominent Yale men to-night who did not hesitate to say that it was nearer a million. Director Chittenden was asked to state the amount, but all he would say was that it was at least half a million.

The exact sum is not specified. Mr. Vanderbilt simply authorizing the Board of Trustees of "Sheff" to start a dormitory system for the scientific school students and he would foot the bills. The proposed improvement may cost half a million or a million. When Cornelius Vanderbilt, brother of Frederick, ten years ago gave Yale University the order to go ahead and build Vanderbilt Hall he said he would spend a million for the purpose, but that if it cost more to build him the bill. It cost over \$200,000 above the million.

So far as is known, this gift is the first to Yale from Frederick W. Vanderbilt. Alfred Vanderbilt, Yale '89, has given Yale \$25,000, which was devoted to biennial fund purposes. Director Chittenden today made this announcement.

Through the kindness of Mr. Vanderbilt, a tract of land has been acquired in the square directly opposite the Sheffield Square, and that Mr. Choate should collect it if he could, because he knew "more about same than any other man." Mr. Choate was to have one-half of all he got, the other half to go to the "Blair family." The letter, however, was signed "John S. Seney" and contained a commission for Mr. Choate to collect a note of the same general character as the one sent to Robinson, purporting to have been made by J. L. Blair to the order of George L. Seney for the sum of \$250,000.

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DEAD FISH CHOKE A CANAL.

Strange Nuisance Puzzling the Health Authorities of Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, July 7.—This situation in Harvey's Canal, opposite New Orleans, is becoming serious in consequence of the millions of buffalo fish lying dead in the canal and in Bayou Bienvenue. The Louisiana and New Orleans Boards of Health and the Jefferson authorities are puzzled how to abate the nuisance. For six miles the bayou and the canal and their banks are filled with fish which have been dead since July 3.

The odor from them can be smelt for miles away, and it has made many persons in the neighborhood go to New Orleans. Savagery of the canal is impossible, and the big mills of the Louisiana Express Lumber Company, employing several hundred hands, and other factories have been compelled to shut down. The dairymen of the neighborhood have removed their cattle, and a large force of negroes has been put to work to raft the fish and throw them out on the banks with long pitchforks. The men can only be kept at work by being supplied with whiskey every half hour. They have worked all day, and many thousands of the dead fish have been hauled out and burned.

It is suggested, as the best way of getting rid of the nuisance, that vessels with booms raft the dead fish down stream several miles and the tide will take them out. The plan of burning them has proved impracticable. The fish are nearly all buffaloes, averaging about twenty inches length, and weighing about fifteen pounds. Only a few catfish are found among the dead. No satisfactory explanation is given of the disease which carried them off.

THROUGH TO CONEY ISLAND.

Motorcars No Longer to Be Concealed From the View of Passengers.

Through electric elevated service from Park road to Coney Island by way of the West End route will begin on Saturday. Ten minute headway will be the schedule. Trains to Bath Beach and Borough Park will be run on a schedule of twenty-five minutes. The fare on trains to Umler Park will be five cents, and the fare to Coney Island ten cents. Motorcars no longer will be concealed. The curtains heretofore used to screen them from the view of the public will be removed. This is done to avoid danger from the sudden death or illness of a motorcar.

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RUGS AND MATTINGS.

Green and white cotton rugs. 6x9ft and 7x10ft.

\$7.50 and \$10.50. formerly \$12.00 and \$15.00.

Moosj Mats, for porches and verandas. Best quality. 6x9ft.....\$7.50 9x12ft.....\$13.50 10x14ft.....\$18.00

China mattings, in lengths of 10 to 30 yards. 10c. per yard, value 20c.

Japanese, Inlaid Damask Mattings, in lengths of 10 to 35 yards. 20c. per yard, value 40c.

Twenty-third Street.

BROTHER SEES MRS. O'MALLEY

EFFORT MAY NOW BE MADE TO GET HER OUT OF JAIL.

Story from Indiana That the Public Prosecutor Will Try to Take Her to South Bend to Be Tried for Poisoning—Young Heavin May Soon Be Set Free.

PHILADELPHIA, July 7.—Orison Ellis of New York, brother of Mrs. Austin O'Malley, who was arrested here while trying to elope with William Heavin, came to this city today and immediately went to Moyamensing Prison, where he had a long talk with his sister. After leaving the prison Ellis called on Lawyer Henry J. Scott, who has been representing Mrs. O'Malley, and it is said steps will at once be taken to have her released on bail.

Mr. Scott said he had made a formal demand on the authorities for the return of Mrs. O'Malley's trunk and clothing, and her jewelry. The clothing had already been obtained; the jewelry he expected to get later. He shrugged his shoulders when asked about the published statement that Mrs. O'Malley had been married before.

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